

REMARKS

Claims 27-46 were examined in the present Office Action mailed on 2 April 2007. Claims 1-26 and 47-71 were not examined in the present application because they had been withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement. In this response, claims 1-34 and 47-71 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursuing these claims in continuation and/or divisional applications, and claim 35 has been amended in independent form. Accordingly, claims 35-46 are currently pending.

In the present Office Action, claims 36-46 were allowed, claim 35 was indicated as being allowable, and claims 27-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0241717 ("Whitehurst"). This rejection, however, is now moot because claims 27-34 have been canceled without prejudice.


The undersigned representative would like to thank Examiner Getzow for holding a personal interview on 6 June 2007. During the interview, a proposed new claim 72 and Whitehurst were discussed. The applicants have elected to pursue the proposed new claim in a continuation application, and thus only allowable claim 35 and allowed claims 36-46 remain in the present application. The applicants respectfully submit that this paper also constitute the Applicant's Interview Summary.

In light of the foregoing, the pending claims comply with 35 U.S.C. Section 112 and are patentable over the cited references. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If Examiner Getzow has any questions or otherwise believes that a teleconference would expedite prosecution of the application, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at (206) 359-3258.

The applicants believe that no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665 under Order No. 337348040US01 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 2, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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